

WASHINGTON, DC - Congressman Rob Wittman (VA-1) released the following statement after House Republicans presented A Pledge to America, a new governing agenda focused on addressing the American people's top priorities. The Pledge is the culmination of a months-long engagement with the American people in which House Republicans sought their ideas and priorities for Congress. The agenda offers solutions that can be implemented immediately to tackle the issues that are most important to the nation, including job creation, spending restraint, national security, health care, and reform of Congress itself.

"Instead of Washington dictating what must be done, we instead are listening to the American people and their priorities for the future of this country. My first priority is to listen to my constituents and to discuss with them the important issues facing the nation. I am continually humbled with this opportunity to serve. But with this opportunity comes the responsibility to ensure that the voice of Virginians is heard in Washington.

"Overwhelmingly, the top priority in Virginia is getting our economy back on track. With this agenda, we focus on incentivizing job creation by small businesses and keeping taxes low to create certainty and an atmosphere for job growth. This pledge also includes a plan to rein in our budget deficit. I am a staunch supporter of a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution, which will force Congress to enact responsible spending measures, and make the tough decisions that will bring prosperity instead of enormous federal debt to our children's future.

"Most importantly, this agenda proposes to restore and promote the freedoms that America was founded upon and Americans deserve. As the Pledge Preamble reads:

"America is an idea – an idea that free people can govern themselves, that government's powers are derived from the consent of the governed, that each of us is endowed by their Creator with the unalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. America is the belief that any man or woman can – given economic, political, and religious liberty – advance themselves, their families, and the common good."

The full agenda, A Pledge to America, can be viewed at <http://pledge.gop.gov/> .